

ASPCA



AMARILLO SOCIETY FOR THE PREVENTION OF CRUELTY TO ANIMALS

SEPTEMBER 2009

Making Changes!

We are making some changes around the shelter! Some are major, some are minor.

One of the major changes we have already made is the installation of a new septic system. This was not only a major change but a major expense as well. It cost over \$13,000 but we are hoping it will last for many, many years. The old one had just collapsed and we were having so much expense trying to limp it along that the board finally made a decision to replace it.

Some more minor changes we have already made are:

- **New play areas in the front.** Our thanks to Bill and Susan Larsen for their tireless work installing fencing – largely at their own expense.
- **Renovations to the Morgan building.** We plan to use it as an in-take building to house cats and dogs for their first month or so at the shelter to make sure they have no health issues. It will also be utilized for mama dogs and their puppies as needed.
- **Fresh paint and signage.** We have had

several Saturday work days during August and volunteers, along with our board members, have done some sprucing up, i.e. painting the porch and erecting new signs. Our special thanks to Rachel Larsen for the new logo sign to help identify the facility.

- **Landscaping.** You will notice the flower beds when you drive up to the shelter. Sheila Kiker provided the flowers and the labor to help beautify the grounds. Also, thanks to Paula Adams and her crew for cleaning up and beautifying around the tree and the sign in front of the building.

Major changes planned include replacing the garage door wall and repair work on our fence. A cinder block wall should greatly reduce heating and cooling expenses and we are in the process of getting bids on the job. Fencing around the area is not 100% secure and we need to make it safe for our dogs to go outside and play without the possibility of their "escaping."

We welcome any input from you on these projects.

Garage Sale Review

I am always amazed at this annual event! We had so much stuff and so many shoppers who braved the heat to come out and buy "treasures!" We actually went over the \$3,000 mark after all was said and done. And we sent a truck load to the Salvation Army when we were finished!

A special thank you to Shannon Lamb who spent three days in the hot sun making sure everything had a price on it and to Penny, Kathy, Iris, Mary, Sharon and countless others who helped in so many ways. I'm sure I'm leaving out several people, but please know you were appreciated.

And, of course, thanks to all who brought items for sale. We had a huge variety this year with everything from bikes to stereos!

We are considering moving the sale to September in 2010 when it might be just a little cooler. We'll give that some more consideration and let you know!

Again, thanks, everyone.

– Peggy Tredway, Coordinator

NEW ADDITION

Our Morgan building is almost complete! We will now have room for up to 8 cats and for at least 3 dogs. It is our goal to use the building as temporary housing while the animals are being watched for any illness they might have before integrating them into the mainstream of the shelter. The dog area can also be used for mother dogs and puppies if necessary.

A big thank you to Max Stubblefield for donating the tile for the Morgan building. It looks great and will make the building so much easier to clean.

We would like to thank Sheryn Johnston, Stormetta Statler, Sheila Kiker and others who helped Sheryn tile the building. Good job, ladies!

Our thanks, too, to Bill and Susan Larsen for all their work in dividing the building into a dog area and a cat area. They built three dog runs on one side and made a room for cat cages on the other side. We are looking forward to using it to its fullest and appreciate all the efforts of our volunteers.



Thanks, Dr. Demere!

The SPCA would like to take this opportunity to thank Dr. Demere and his staff at Timber Creek Small Animal Hospital for the compassionate care they give to our animals. Here are a few examples:

- **Diamond** came to the SPCA with sarcoptic mange (and very little hair!); then contracted parvo and kennel cough! It was a 3 month recovery process for Diamond but on Saturday, August 22, she found her forever home.
 - **Shep**, our shelter mascot battled old age from the time he came to us, but thanks to the good care he received, we were able to have him around a lot longer than expected. He crossed over in July but he had a quality life until the end.
 - **Numerous cats and dogs** are surrendered to the SPCA with medical and surgical needs. Either they have been found with broken legs or other injuries or their owners can no longer care for them. These are unscheduled visits to the veterinarian and Dr. Demere and his staff always take it in stride and make the animal comfortable until surgery or treatment can be provided.
- Thanks for all you do! You have a special place in our hearts.



SHEP

Shep entered our lives in February 2007. He was in poor health and we thought we would be caring for him only a short while. To our wonder, Shep cared for us for 2 1/2 years. He was our greatest asset, greeting everyone that entered our doors.

Shep crossed over the Rainbow Bridge Monday, July 20, 2009. He will always remain in our hearts.



Photo provided by Heather Partain, Evershots

SASSY

Although we don't have a picture of Sassy, she was a red Dachshund and she was very old when surrendered to the SPCA. She was diabetic, blind, and had other health problems.

She spent the last year or so of her life at Janet's home where she was allowed the freedom to enjoy life to its fullest. Sassy will also be missed by all who knew her. She crossed over the Rainbow Bridge on July 30, 2009.

Cat Health - Weight Control

Managing your cat's weight can improve his or her health. Not just a concern for humans, obesity in cats can cause metabolic syndrome in cats, as well as exacerbate pre-existing feline health conditions, such as diabetes and arthritis.

An estimated 35% to 40% of cats are obese, research shows, making them 4 times more likely to develop diabetes, 5 times more likely to develop lameness, and 3 times more likely to have non-allergic skin conditions. You can help prevent obesity, reduce the risk of feline disease, and keep your cat young by controlling your cat's weight.

Cats experience different cycles of body weight as they age. During the first year, kittens tend to gain weight rapidly. After a plateau between ages 1 and 7 calendar years, weight gain peaks again in adult cats from ages 7 to 11 years. Senior cats ages 11 and older usually experience some weight loss.

Following cat-food package instructions and consistently using a measuring scoop or cup are the best ways to control your cat's food quantity and reduce the risk of obesity.

Pet Health Alerts

Does your pet have excessive itching of the ears, eyes, feet or belly? Does your pet have vomiting or diarrhea? These could be symptoms of allergies to an ingredient in your pet's food.

The most common allergies are to beef, chicken, eggs, corn, wheat, soy, milk, or the dyes added to food.

Changing to a food free of dyes, or one that has rice instead of corn can make a big difference to your pet. Check with your favorite veterinarian if a food change doesn't help.

Are flies laying eggs on your dog's ears and just generally driving your pet crazy? Put a small layer of petroleum jelly on your pet's ears and it will smother the eggs and keep the larvae from eating the skin.

Take a look at your dog's ears and see your veterinarian if flies have already started eating the skin.



Memorials & Honorariums

- In memory of Liz Bills**
 – Regina McMullan
 – Lea Balfour
 – Scott Balfour
- In memory of Norman and Susan Stewart's pet dog, Murphy**
 – Chuck & Linda Rimmer and Maisie
- In honor of the SPCA. Thanks for all you do with love, prayers and appreciation**
 – Liz Douglas
- In memory of Dudley, Cathie Kimbell's pet**
 – Toni & Ralph Wallingford
- In memory of Sandra Tolbert**
 – John & Kristin Harris
 – Lanny & Carolyn Cook
- In memory of Carolyn LeLois "Tooter" Kindle Latham**
 – Mike & Judy Lees
- In memory of Christine Roberts**
 – Kay Davis
- In loving memory of my husband, Dr. C. Joseph Batson**
 – Emile Batson
- In memory of Shaka, beloved companion of Melinda Elizabeth Duncan**
 – John & Kerin Duncan
- In memory of John Beard**
 – Lynne Tellman
- In memory of James Gordon "Jim" Shankle**
 – Sam Fagin
 – Raffkinds
 – Judy Hale
 – Mary Lou Rhebeck, with love from Van, Mary Lou, Regan & Aunt Shorty
 – Kenneth & Claudette Wilcox
 – Stephen Jarnagin
 – Cornell & Company, P. C.
 – Felice Horwits
 – Bill & Peggy Lohr
 – John & Jeanne Forbis
 – Jerry & Sharon Baker
 – R. D. & Debbie Barron
 – James & Judy Maurer
 – Scott & Jennifer Baltzen
 – Dan & Joan McCullough
 – Arthrosurface Incorporated
- In memory of David Thompson**
 – Cindy, Landon, Rob & Sara Carter
- In honor of Butter and Emma – Happy 2nd Birthday!**
 – Mary Ann Allen
- In honor of Iris Houghton's Birthday**
 – K. D. Brown
- In memory of Reba Ola Brech**
 – Coffee Memorial Blood Center
- In memory of Becky Wall**
 – Frances Frigo
- In memory of DeAnne Marie Blevins**
 – Jayn Looper
 – John & Mary Rausch
 – Richard & Amelia Slaughter
 – Salli A. Blevins
- In memory of Jerry "Dane" Mixon**
 – Cortez Mays Family
 – Kay Cochran
 – Tina Wall
 – Jeremy & Carol Rohane
 – Science Teachers at Palo Duro High School
 – John & Sandy Walker
- In honor of Buddy, Rusty, Misty and Shadow**
 – Janet M. Baker
- In memory of Jeanette Crump Huggins**
 – Gary E. Crump
- In honor of Karen Richardson's birthday**
 – Wayne & Susan Steen
- In honor of Jack and Chick Steed**
 – Elaine Hazlewood
- In memory of Mary Almeta Robertson**
 – Nancy Woodman
- Sponsor Dog Run:**
 – Carry A. Baker
 – Friends & Family of DeAnne Blevins



We have added a new category to our Membership & Donation Form so that you may contribute toward the purchase of trees to be planted on the SPCA shelter grounds. Trees will provide shade for our dogs when they are outside, allowing them longer play time.

This is another option to remember a loved one or a pet. It's also a nice way to say "Happy Birthday" or "Merry Christmas" to a friend or loved one.



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P.O. Box 1014 • Amarillo, Texas 79105

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U.S. POSTAGE

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Return service requested.

Membership & Donation Form

(All membership dues and donations are tax-deductible.)

Yes I want to join the ASPCA in promoting responsible pet ownership and compassionate care of animals.

- Patron \$1,000 Sponsor \$ 500 Supporting Member \$100
 Family Member \$50 Individual Member \$20
NEW! Sponsor a Tree \$150 Sponsor Dog Run \$150

- I don't wish to be a member at this time, but here's my donation of _____
 I'm already a member, but here's an additional donation _____
 I would like to donate to person or pet memorials/honorariums (Memorials and honorariums will be published in the next newsletter. Please give in loving memory of your lost one.)

Please notify _____

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Mail to: ASPCA
P.O. Box 1014
Amarillo, Texas 79105

Thank You!

SHELTER HOURS:

1-6 p.m. Tuesday through Friday
1-5 p.m. Saturdays

PETSMART ADOPTION HOURS:

1-5 p.m. Saturday

PETCO ADOPTION HOURS:

2-5 p.m. Sunday

PetSmart will no longer handle the paperwork on cats adopted from their store. Cats will remain in the store for viewing and selection, but potential adopters will need to come to the shelter at 11901 S. Coulter to complete the paperwork.

Shelter Phone: 806.622.0555

Happy Tails

The ASPCA has a new addition to our web site. If you've adopted a cat or dog from the SPCA, we'd love to share your adoption story on our site. E-mail your story and a photo of your pet to amarillospca@amaonline.com.